

1. (currently amended) An apparatus for making coated dosage forms comprising:

- a) a mold plate;
- b) a retention plate;

wherein the mold plate and retention plate define a mold cavity for enclosing a core and having a flow path defined at least in part by an interior surface of said mold plate and the core to be coated and the mold plate has an internal surface with protrusions projecting towards the interior of the cavity formed between the mold plate and the retention plate; and

- c) a nozzle assembly for introducing a flowable material into said mold cavity to coat at least a first portion of said core with said flowable material, said nozzle assembly having a nozzle tip and valve body comprising a valve stem tip, wherein at least a portion of the valve stem tip or nozzle tip are constructed from or coated with a thermally insulative material.

2. (original) An apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the valve body further comprises a valve stem as a distinct element that is constructed from a material having at least high thermal conductivity.

3. (original) An apparatus according to claim 2, wherein the valve stem is constructed from a material having thermal conductivity at 23°C of at least 1200 BTU-in/ft²-hr-°F.

4. (original) The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the both the valve stem tip and nozzle tip are constructed from a polymeric material having low thermal conductivity.

5. (original) The apparatus according to claim 3, wherein both the nozzle tip and valve stem tip are constructed from or coated with a material having a thermal conductivity at 23°C not greater than 2 BTU-in/ft²-hr-°F.

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7. (currently amended) The apparatus according to claim 1 ~~6~~, wherein the core rests upon a spring-biased stem and the protrusions are in contact with the surface of the core.

8. (original) The apparatus according to claim 5 wherein core is in the form of a compressed tablet and the flowable material comprises a gelatin.

9. (original) The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said flowable material comprises a polymer.

10. (original) The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said flowable material comprises a material selected from the group consisting of sucrose-fatty acid esters; fats, waxes, fat-containing mixtures, sugars, and low-moisture polymer solutions.

11. (currently amended) An apparatus for making coated dosage forms comprising:

a) a first mold plate;

b) a second mold plate;

wherein the first mold plate and second plate define a mold cavity for enclosing a core and having a flow path defined at least in part by an interior surface of said first mold plate and the core to be coated and the mold plate has an internal surface with protrusions projecting towards the interior of the cavity formed between the mold plate and the retention plate; and

c) a nozzle assembly in said first mold plate and said second mold for introducing a flowable material into said mold cavity to coat at least a portion of said core with said flowable material, said nozzle assemblies having a nozzle tip and valve assembly comprising a valve stem tip, wherein at least a portion of the valve stem tip or nozzle tip are constructed from or coated with a thermally insulative material.

12. (original) The apparatus according to claim 11, wherein the valve body further comprises a valve stem as a separate element that is constructed from a material having at least high thermal conductivity.

13. (original) The apparatus according to claim 10, wherein both the nozzle tip and valve stem tip are constructed from or coated with a material having a thermal conductivity at 23°C not greater than 2 BTU-in/ft²-hr-°F, and wherein the valve stem is constructed from a material having thermal conductivity at 23°C of at least 1200 BTU-in/ft²-hr-°F.

14. (original) The apparatus according to claim 11, wherein said flowable material comprises a polymer.

15. (original) The apparatus according to claim 11, wherein said flowable material comprises a material selected from the group consisting of sucrose-fatty acid esters; fats, waxes, fat-containing mixtures, sugars, and low-moisture polymer solutions.

16. (original) The apparatus according to claim 11, wherein said flowable material is a first flowable material and said mold cavity is a first mold cavity, said apparatus further comprising:

d) a second mold plate for retaining a core and a third mold plate that define a second mold cavity; and

e) a second nozzle assembly having a second nozzle tip and a second valve stem tip for introducing a second flowable material, wherein at least a portion of the second nozzle tip or second valve stem tip are constructed from or coated with a thermally insulative material, wherein said first mold plate and second mold plate are affixed to a common carrier and rotatably mounted onto said apparatus.

Cancel claims 17-40